



PRESS STATEMENT

City of South Fulton Government

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South Fulton Council Asks Mayor to Rescind Veto of Police Recruitment and Retention Bonuses

(CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GA – February 2, 2022) – The City of South Fulton City Council today issued the following statement this morning regarding Mayor Khalid Kamau's recent veto of council-approved legislation creating recruitment and retention bonuses for the city's police department.

"The mayor's decision to veto the proposed recruitment and retention bonuses for our police department disappoints us. We stand opposed to it and in unified support of our police chief.

The veto threatens the safety of residents because it limits the department's ability to hire and keep highly qualified officers. Our residents' wellbeing comes first. Other neighboring departments are offering equal or enhanced bonuses – one three times our suggested amount – so there's no question we are losing qualified candidates.

While the mayor said his decision is based on a desire to study recruiting and retention needs across all departments, our police department simply cannot wait. Competition is fierce.

In the spirit of cooperation, we respectfully ask the mayor to rescind his veto. Further, we commit to a comprehensive study and dialogue to determine the recruitment and retention needs of other city departments. Such an approach best serves our city's staff and provides the highest level of service to the 108,000 people who call the City of South Fulton home.

Otherwise, this council has no choice but to overturn the veto during our next regular meeting on Feb. 22."

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